

REMARKS

In order to advance prosecution and expedite allowance, non-elected claims 11-13 have been canceled.

The limitation of claim 2 has been inserted into claim 1. Claim 2 has, accordingly, been canceled and claim 3 amended to correct dependency.

The limitation of claim 15 has been inserted into claim 14. Claim 14 has, accordingly, been canceled and claims 16 and 18 amended to correct dependency.

Claim 24 has been amended to recite that the curing apparatus is a source or actinic or ionizing radiation. Support may be found in claim 25 as originally filed.

Claims 4, 17 and 25 have been canceled.

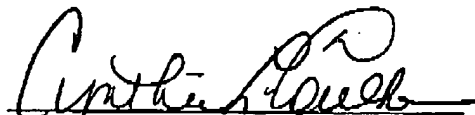
No new matter has added. Entry is requested.

Claims 1, 3, 5-10, 14, 16, 18-24 remain pending.

Claims 1 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Reckziegel (U.S. Patent No.4,984,949) and claims 14, 17, 24 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Yang et al. (U.S. Patent No.6,207,248 B1). Applicants submit that the foregoing amendment renders the Section 102 rejections of record moot and places claims 1, 3, 5-10, 14, 16 and 18-24 in condition to be allowed.

Early and favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia L. Foulke
Reg. No. 32,364

November 26, 2003

National Starch and Chemical Company
P. O. Box 6500
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807-0500
Telephone No.: 908-685-7483